

BLONDIE



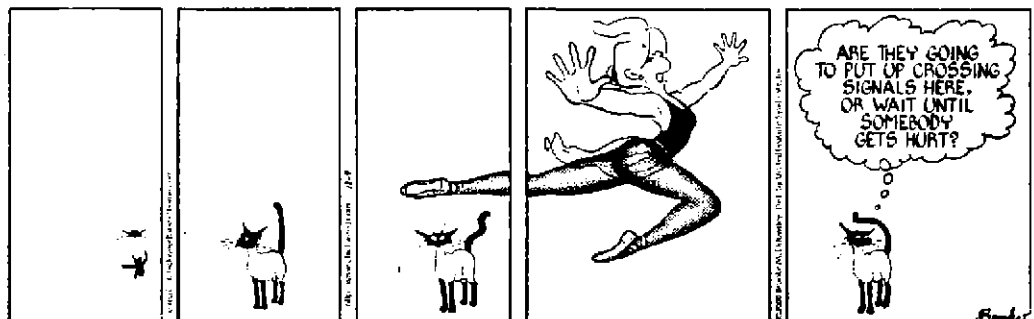
SALLY FORTH



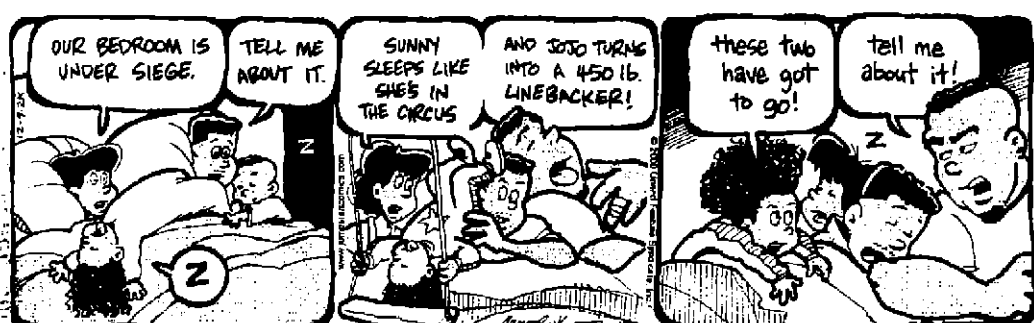
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



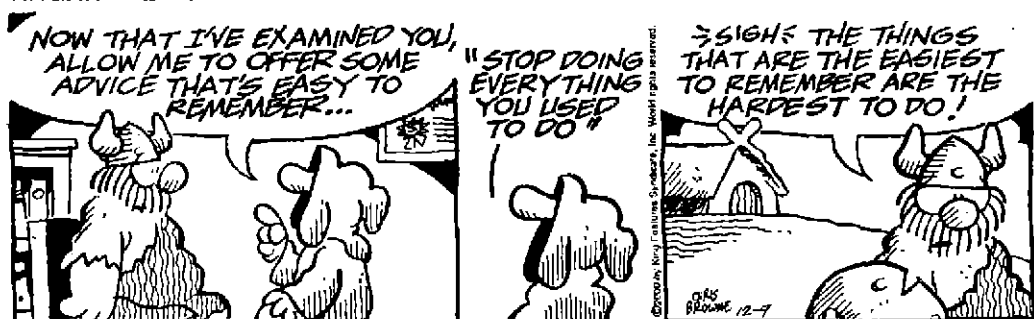
JUMP START



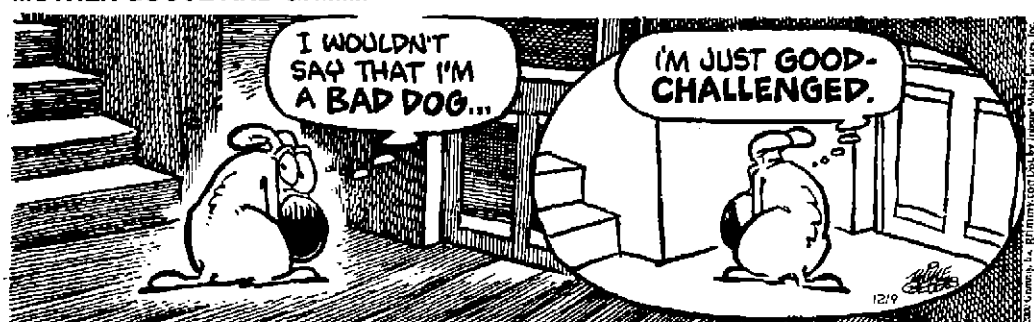
ROSE IS ROSE



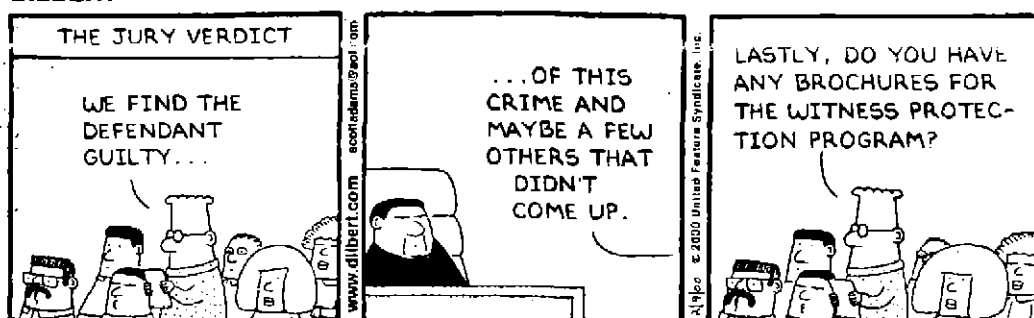
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT



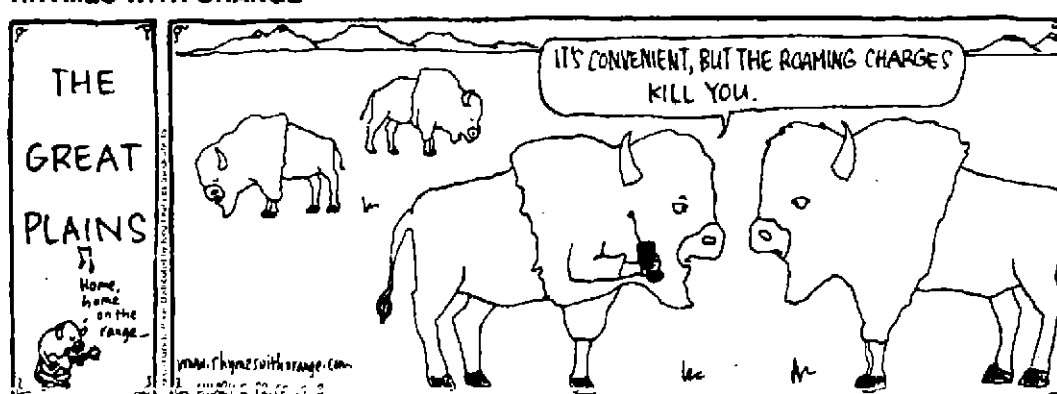
DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Actor Kirk Douglas is 84. Actress Dina Merrill is 75. Actor Dick Van Patten is 72. Actor-writer Buck Henry is 70. Talk show host Morton Downey Jr. is 67. Actress Dame Judi Dench is 66. Actor Beau Bridges is 59. Football Hall-of-Famer Dick Butkus is 58. Actor Michael Nouri is 55. Singer Joan Armatrading is 50. Actor Michael Dorn is 48. Actor John Malkovich is 47. Singer Donny Osmond is 43.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

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L	E	C	T	S	A	A	1st Letter Double
G	C	L	N	L	H	A	Double Word Score
E	Y	D	T	S	M	O	
S	N	H	K	R	A	A	

PAR SCORE 130-140
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Banks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

LIVED INTO THEIR 90S

P V T R P N L D N O M R U H T
J B H N R U B P E H F E E D B
Y J U X V T R L P O M D P K I
G O E D S N R U B G D U O T B
Z H I L D E G A R D E A H R Z
X N W U B Y T R Q O N L B E E
L M U M N E E U Q J I E O B P
G I F D Z T U B L R A E B L O
C L A Y X W A H S E I T R A L
W L V T Y E K A B E D S S E L
R S S I C N A R F E N E L R A

Friday's unused clue: FEMUR

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Saturday's unused clue: SENATOR STROM -

Al Lopez Buddy Ebsen Estée Lauder John Mills
Ariane Francis De Bakay G. Burns M. Berle
Artie Shaw E. Albert Hepburn Queen Mum
Bob Hope Earl Butz Hildegard

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For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

Sunday, Dec. 10, 2000

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Take a "just the facts, ma'am" approach to communication — no soliloquies, please!

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Skip the heavy stuff for the time being, and try to find somebody to play with.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Don't be alarmed if you see a stranger in the mirror: It's you, armed with more power and vivacious charm than any one person should have!

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The chatter inside your head might rise to deafening levels.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Get a friend on the line, or better yet, get all your friends on the line and invite them to party at your house!

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) This is a good time to practice conversation skills, but don't let your tongue run wild.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Both your brain and your heart are humming along at full throttle.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Life is full of contradictions, and most of them will show up for you at this time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Curl up in front of your internal fireplace with a good book, and keep to yourself until tomorrow comes.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Everybody's talking, but no one's listening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Romance looms large on your emotional horizon.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) It's time to stay at home, or at least to stay close to your emotional center.

ACES

By Bobby Wolff

With little hope of establishing and cashing winners in his own hand, West leads his spade jack. With East holding most of the partnership's high cards, perhaps East may have spade length as well.

West's lead is a good choice, and South refuses to win the first round, taking his ace when West continues the suit. Having time to test dummy's diamonds before leading clubs, South leads low to dummy's eight, and East blows smoke by winning his queen instead of the 10. Another spade goes to dummy's king, and a complacent South leads a club to his ace to repeat the deep diamond finesse. This time East wins his 10 and cashes his high spade. This leaves South with only eight tricks, and the game goes one down. Was South a victim of clever play, or could he have done something to help his cause? East deserves full marks for leading South astray. However, South might have cashed the king and ace of clubs on his way to repeating the diamond finesse. When East's jack appears in this layout, South can concede a club, dodging the trap East prepared in the diamond suit. It pays to be suspicious when things appear to be going your way.

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 102

ACROSS

1 Soccer award
6 Westminster Abbey area
12 Dope
15 Campaign targets
16 Commercial game with disks
17 Outmoded eatery
18 1979 hit "What Gonna Do With My Lovin'"
19 Photo requester, maybe
21 Building block
22 Mustard family member
24 Munich-to-Berlin dir.
25 Kind of roll
27 "So ___ to you, Fuzzy-Wuzzy": Kipling

28 Oil holders
30 Philosopher
31 Baker's dozen?
33 Journeys
35 Looks
38 Frames wind up on them
40 Mobile home dweller
42 Spenserian verb
45 Oil holder
48 They're not rehearsed
51 Accusatory response
52 Takes in
54 Time in le printemps
55 Practice like a pug
56 Rot
57 Baseballer
Biggio et al.

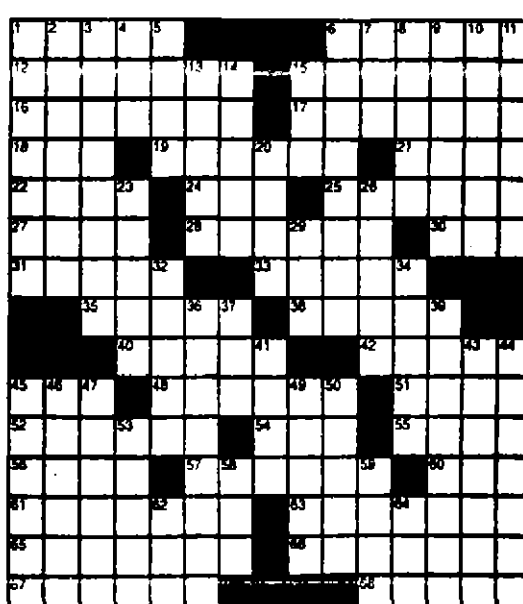
60 Crowded place in the Bible
61 One new to a line
63 They got Gotti
65 Fans' activity
66 Its capital is Castries
67 Building block
68 Fervent worshippers' place

DOWN

1 Shark's target, at times
2 Ancient harplike instrument
3 They may deliver anesthesia
4 "Voi ___ sapete" (Mozart aria)
5 Sea food?
6 "Ad Parnassum" painter
7 Giant from Gretna
8 Dangerous strain
9 Least likely to snap?
10 Levels
11 Where some errands are run
13 Coeur d'___
14 "Beverly Hills 90210" female
15 Carrier overseer: Abbr.
20 Bother
23 Newbery winner for "Ginger Pye"
26 Didn't order
29 Trespass

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ENLIST SALVES
AQUIFER TROILUS
SUMMARY JUDGMENT
PIBB VOODOO VULO
INE MENHIR PAUL
ROSSI SNO CUTIE
EXTERN QUARTETS
TRAMPSHIP
JYSOYOU AMUSED
NOPAA NEW ETHNO
LOOT BELIES EAT
ELO SATINS PACE
YAKEABACKSEATTO
STEERER EARTHEN
EDGILY DISHED



32 Legislator's group
46 Loves
47 Kind of diet
49 Teases
50 Pupils take part in it
53 Theologian
Judeaus
41 Pizarro founded it
43 Double
44 Changes direction
45 Diagonal

56 Gas station abbr.
59 Ward of the screen
62 "Little Birds" writer
64 Part of a giant's chant

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS